

CLAUS SPRECKELS, THE SUGAR KING, IS DEAD

Man Who Made History in Hawaii—Record a Great One.

(Associated Press Cablegram.)

SAN FRANCISCO, December 26.—Claus Spreckels died at half-past four o'clock this morning. Rudolph Spreckels and John D. Spreckels, with the latter's daughters, were at the bedside, and the others were summoned. Rudolph and C. A. Spreckels are named as executors in the will, to serve under a bond of half a million dollars. The income of the estate is stated to exceed a quarter of a million dollars a year. There are matters that need immediate attention. The will is in possession of the widow. It provides for all the children, and disposes of an estate of possibly fifty million dollars. The opening of the will is to take place on Monday.

Claus Spreckels, the Sugar King, the news of whose death came to Honolulu by cable yesterday, was for many years intimately connected with the political and industrial history of Hawaii. He was, up to the time of his death, still connected in many important ways with the commercial and industrial life of the Islands, and he had, during the thirty-two years since he first extended his interest to the Mid-Pacific, rendered great services to the leading industry of this Territory.

Claus Spreckels was born in Lamstedt, Hanover, Germany, in 1828, migrating to the United States in 1846. It was with a desire to escape the enforced military duties that every man is supposed to go through in the Vaterland that young Spreckels came to America, and he was an illustration of the process of natural selection by which the most energetic, the most enterprising and the most resourceful elements of the population of Europe have been sifted out for the benefit of the United States. Most of the good people of Lamstedt were satisfied to do as they were told, and they have made no further mark on the history of the world.

Almost Penniless, but Ambitious.

The more ambitious youth, however, secured a steamer passage to America, landing at Charleston in 1846 with three dollars in one pocket and a huge slice of the beet sugar industry of Germany in the other. He did not know at that time what it was that his other pocket contained. He only knew that there was a fortune in it of some kind, which could be brought to light by vigorous work. He started working in a grocery store for his board. In the second month he was earning four dollars a week; in the third, another grocer was paying him eight dollars, and eighteen months later he had bought out his second employer and was running a store of his own. He flourished in Charleston until 1855, when he went to New York and won still greater success in the same business. But California was already calling him. The rush of the forty-niners had not yet subsided. He landed in San Francisco in 1856, the year in which Coleman was marshaling his ten regiments of Vigilantes to save civilization from law. Mining might be a gamble in those days, but the miners all had to eat, and so an enterprising grocer could not fail to make money. Spreckels made fifty thousand dollars, and then he looked about for something bigger. To a man with the traditions of Lamstedt, Hanover, still fresh in his mind, the object that loomed largest first was naturally a brewery. Spreckels bought one. It flourished so well that in a few years he was able to dispose of his fifty-thousand-dollar investment for seventy-five thousand dollars.

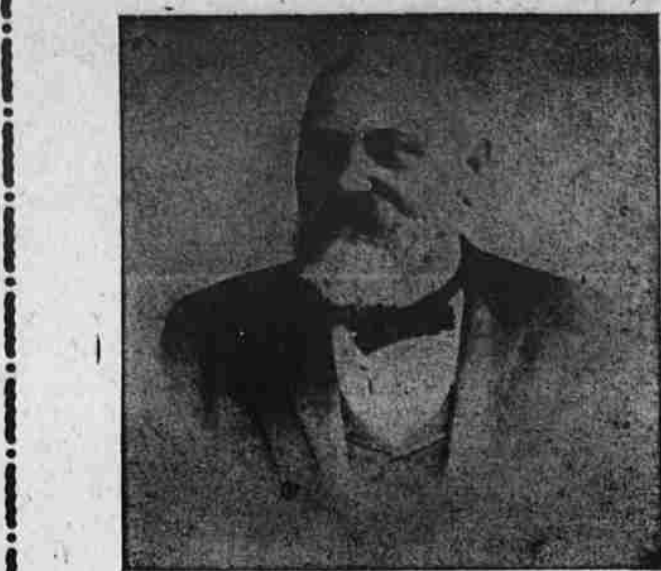
First Sugar Ventures.

Then at last his attention was directed to his life-work. He saw opportunities on the Pacific Coast for the development of a great sugar industry, with tropical islands within easy reach as a source of raw material and competition in finished products cut off by mountains and deserts. He bought an interest in a small local refinery and soon worked up a large and profitable business. Then he bought out the other stockholders and became the sole proprietor. With improved machinery and the magic of his personal direction the mill was soon earning enormous profits. But still Spreckels was not satisfied. He knew that he was not using the best methods. He resolved to master the whole art of sugar-making and then make a fresh start. He sold out at a high price and went to Europe. There, already a rich man, he put on the rough clothes of a common laborer and secured employment in a refinery at Magdeburg. He worked for wages there for six weeks, and in that time he had become familiar with every detail of the refinery process.

It became evident to him that California was not yet ready for the beet-sugar industry, and he resolved to devote his energy for the time to cane. He put up the California refinery in 1868, enlarge the small wooden building four times in three years, and then replaced it with the immense brick building with a capacity of eight hundred barrels per day which now looms over the Potrero de San Francisco. At that time, it took three weeks to make hard sugar. Spreckels invented new processes by which the time was reduced to twenty-four hours. He introduced the modern cube and crushed sugars to the American market. At first he bought most of his raw material in the Philippines, but when the Hawaiian Reciprocity Treaty was negotiated in 1876, he saw that a revolution was impending in the Pacific Coast refining industry.

Became Friend of Kalakaua.

A year previous to this he had been in Honolulu as a visitor and he had as a capitalist and a man of affairs looked



THE LATE CLAUS SPRECKELS.

into the possibilities of Hawaii from a refiner's point of view. At that time, his son, John D. Spreckels, was living in Honolulu, a clerk with Hackfeld & Co., and he was able to inform his father of the chances for profitable investment in Hawaii. In 1876, Mr. Spreckels came to Honolulu for business. He became a close friend of the King, negotiating with the Hawaiian planters for securing a control of their product and made arrangements to become a planter himself on a grand scale.

Becoming aware of the fact that the Legislature of 1862, in legislating in settlement of the personal claims of the aliis against the crown lands, had omitted to provide for the Princess Ruth, a half-sister of Kamehameha IV, he purchased from her for ten thousand dollars her claim against the government. Pressing this claim he was awarded the lands of Wailuku, and on this grant was established the plantation of the Hawaiian Commercial and Sugar Company. He secured the services of Herman Schussler, a celebrated engineer, who planned the great irrigation system installed at a cost of half a million dollars. This canal, nearly thirty miles long, carried through thirty tunnels cut in the solid rock, still brings the water to the plantation laterals.

His holdings rapidly increased until Spreckels became the undisputed Sugar King of Hawaii. With his power as a planter came also power politically. In financial ways he made himself of such service to the King and government that for years he stood as the power behind the throne, making and unmaking Cabinets. Spreckels, Kalakaua and Gibson, in the order of power named, were the triumvirate governing the kingdom for years. It was through the refusal of the then Attorney General Hartwell and the Minister of the Interior Mott-Smith to grant the Haiku water rights to Spreckels that their resignations were called for and the Wilder ministry appointed, a fact which illustrates the influence exercised by the Sugar King over the King of the land, while the selection of the late S. G. Wilder at the claimed instance of Mr. Spreckels, is an indication that while he desired those in power to be his friends he at the same time used his influence in the appointing of able men, Mr. Wilder being judged by the Hawaiian historian as the ablest administrator the kingdom ever had.

In many ways Mr. Spreckels was identified with the political movements during the reign of Kalakaua. It was he who supplied the bullion for the first Kalakaua coinage, while at his personal remonstrance with the King the bill intended to grant a charter to a Louisiana lottery concern was withdrawn after the second reading in the Legislature of 1884.

In 1886 the friendship between the King and Mr. Spreckels came to an end, and during the session of the Legislature in that year there were two parties struggling for control—the Spreckels party, led by the Ministry, and the King's party, which favored the floating of a ten-million-dollar loan on the London market. At that time the government was indebted to Spreckels for \$600,000. The Ministry was defeated and the Sugar King left the Islands in disgust. The debt to Spreckels was paid off the following year.

During the period of the Provisional Government, Mr. Spreckels worked consistently in opposition to the annexation sentiment and was strongly opposed to the final consummation of the negotiations between the Republic of Hawaii and the United States. His belief was that for the interests of the sugar planters the right to regulate their own immigration laws and the right to contract labor was of greater importance than the certainty of the free market of the United States, although it seemed at that time that the reciprocity treaty which had existed in force since 1876 would be abrogated by the United States Senate.

He endeavored to secure the united effort of the planters against annexation, but in this was not successful. To embarrass the government, he issued a demand in May, 1899, for the immediate repayment of some \$95,000 due the Spreckels Bank by the government. This political move was met by the prompt raising of the money, the repayment of the loan and the political check causing the Sugar King to again leave Hawaii in anger, stating that he would never return to the Islands until Queen Liliuokalani was again seated on the throne. He had been a warm partisan of the deposed ruler, and in that time of great political excitement, when feeling ran high, it is stated that threats against his life had also been made here.

The Deserted Spreckels Mansion.

In leaving Honolulu as he did, Mr. Spreckels demonstrated his own faith in the belief that the condition he named for his return might be some

day met with, by simply closing up his beautiful mansion on Punahou street and refusing to either sell or lease it. The house has been opened since that time, however, once on the occasion of a visit here of his son, John D. Spreckels, and later, a few years ago, when the Sugar King and his wife returned to pay a visit to Honolulu. The mansion, erected on a tract of Punahou property purchased from Oahu College, was for many years the finest private residence in the city, being only second to that of the King's palace. For years, until the hundreds of palms and other trees set out by the owner grew so as to practically hide the residence, the white three-story house of the Sugar King was one of the things pointed out to tourists as a Honolulu landmark. During the period of excitement referred to above, in 1893, a placard was discovered hanging on one of the now padlocked gates of the property, the warning consisting of a skull and crossbones, across which, written in red ink, were the words: "Gold and silver can not stop lead." This, added to the chagrin of being thwarted politically, resulted in the departure on the next Oceanic liner to leave for San Francisco of the whole Spreckels family.

Last Visit to Honolulu.

Twice since then has Mr. Spreckels visited this city, both visits being paid in 1905. These visits were paid partly in connection with the renewals of the contracts the sugar planters of Hawaii had entered into for the sale of their entire product to the Spreckels refinery. In the winter of 1904 an attempt was made to secure better terms; the former agreements having been based on New York prices less 3-8 of a cent a pound. No terms could be arranged to satisfy both parties, however, and the result was the establishing by the Hawaiian planters of their own refinery at Crockett.

Spreckels' Sugar War.

In the meanwhile, during the time that Mr. Spreckels dominated the sugar circles of the Hawaiian Islands and was the center about which raged much of the political agitations of the reigns of Kalakaua and Liliuokalani, his interests on the mainland had grown immensely.

Soon after the organization of the Sugar Trust, its promoters looked over the Rocky Mountains into the rich preserves on the Pacific Coast and thought they would like to annex them. They invited Spreckels to sell out. He declined. Then the trust subsidized the American Sugar Refinery of San Francisco to drive him out of business. The American Refinery could sell at a loss and have its deficits made up by the Eastern profits of the trust. Spreckels, having no such resource, would have to go under. It was the usual trust program, and was supposed to be infallible. But Spreckels was not the usually helpless opponent. Perhaps he had read the story of Agathocles, the tyrant of Syracuse, who, when he was besieged by the Carthaginians in his capital, sailed away by night and carried havoc to the gates of Carthage. Perhaps, not being a classical scholar, he just acted according to the light of nature. At any rate, instead of lying down and asking the trust to dictate its terms, he jumped across the continent to Philadelphia with five million dollars in his pocket and there built the largest refinery in the world. He was now in a position to fix prices in the trust's own market. He could sell his sugar produce by the most improved methods at a better profit than the trust could at the points upon which it depended for its chief returns, and the profits so obtained would allow him to mark time in California while his competitors were going ahead there at a loss. The trust studied the proposition for a time and then capitulated. It bought out the Philadelphia refinery and left Spreckels in control of the business of the Pacific Coast.

Beet Sugar Interests.

And now the time had come for the new advance of which he had dreamed when he put on the overalls of a workman at Magdeburg in 1867. The conditions in California had become such that the beet-sugar industry might be established there with success. Experiments in a small way with imperfect machinery had proved that the scheme was practicable. Mr. Spreckels built at Watsonville the largest beet-sugar factory in the United States. It was opened in 1888, and paid a dividend the first year. By 1897, its aggregate dividends had amounted to one hundred and seventeen dollars per one hundred-dollar share. In that year Mr. Spreckels bought out the minority stockholders, paying them three hundred dollars per share for stock that had cost one hundred dollars.

This was only the beginning. In 1896, another visit to Europe in search of the very latest German methods was followed by the construction at Salinas of the most gigantic beet-sugar plant

in the world. The Watsonville factory had been almost as large as the other two California establishments combined. The Salinas refinery was a third greater than all the others put together, including the one at Watsonville. It cost two million seven hundred and fifty thousand dollars. It devoured three thousand tons of beets per day. That meant thirteen thousand dollars for the farmers. Mr. Spreckels had refused to begin its construction until those farmers had contracted to keep nearly twenty-five thousand acres planted in beets for a series of years. The beet-fields that supply it with raw material stretch for nine miles in one direction and five miles in the other. It takes one thousand two hundred barrels of petroleum a day to keep the machinery running.

His Railroad Enterprises.

While others had experimented in beet-sugar culture in California, it was the Spreckels enterprise that made it a success on a grand scale, and similarly, while others had made ineffectual dabs at the handiwork of railroad monopoly that fettered the industry of the state, Mr. Spreckels wrenched them off. The merchants and farmers of California had been trying to raise money for a competing railroad through the San Joaquin valley. They needed about six million dollars in all. Subscriptions had been dribbling in, but it seemed exceedingly doubtful whether the amount could be raised. But Claus Spreckels shook up the community by taking five hundred thousand dollars worth of stock and making two of his sons subscribe one hundred thousand dollars each. Later, he lent the company another million. Nothing could stop the enterprise after that. The Valley Road was hauling freight out to Fresno in 1896. Eventually it was sold to the Santa Fe, and San Francisco had a second Eastern connection.

Oceanic Steamship Line.

Long before this, the Oceanic Steamship Company, owned by the Spreckels family, had been carrying the trade of San Francisco to the Pacific Islands and Australia. Alone it had been keeping the American flag flying in the South Pacific, and it furnished the proof that Australia was nearer to England by way of America than by way of the Suez Canal.

There are other vast Spreckels enterprises: electricity, gas, journalism and what not. But enough has been said to show the fashion in which they are conducted and to give some idea of the manner of man that stood behind them. With all his American energy, Claus Spreckels has never lost the characteristics of his fatherland. Although he came to this country as a boy, and has lived here for over half a century, he always spoke with a marked German accent. He had the German characteristics, too: streaks of idealism, unselfishness and sentimentality, alternating with others of combative obstinacy and something very like malice. He was a most generous and affectionate father until some things happened to displease him, and then his family was split in two, or rather three, and its dissensions were blazoned through the courts. These things shadowed the close of a life of incalculable usefulness, but they could not impair the value of the services that his life has rendered to the community. Whether there was peace in the red sandstone palace on Van Ness Avenue or not, there is happiness in thousands of homes that owe their existence to the tireless activity of the grizzled sugar king.

His Great Aids to Hawaii.

During the many years that Mr. Spreckels has been identified with the sugar industry of these Islands, his work has been along the lines of the solid and permanent improvement of plantation conditions and in the business conditions of the Islands themselves. Hawaii's wealth has been largely increased through him, business processes systematized, advances in civilization promoted through the broad views, definite methods and decision of character shown by him in his operations here. It is true that there were legal controversies with which he was connected, but these have long since ceased, and now, at the close of his wonderful career, his labors are comprehended, and at the period of his last visit to Honolulu, Mr. Spreckels received the practically unanimous respect and affection of Honoluluans, irrespective of party, class or sect.

He was easily the first citizen of California and beyond any man had been identified with the unequalled development of the western part of the United States. Starting with a capital mainly consisting of brains and energy, his forward and upward path had been steadily opened with unwavering purpose, with iron will and with concentration in the community where his first success originated. Other capitalists of the Pacific Coast transferred their investments and established their homes far away from the scenes of their early accumulations. Mr. Spreckels, who had been really at the head of them all, though far-reaching as his enterprises and transactions have been, centered his operations in the State of which he had become a citizen, and though large enough in his capacity and in his business to have been recognized throughout the world, he was distinctively known as the leading capitalist of the West.

Mr. Spreckels had always been noted for fidelity to his friends. Towards his employees he was a kind master, and strikes on the part of his men were almost unknown. He was a man true to his word, who, without affectation, humanitarianism or pretense of any kind, never disregarded the welfare of the community in which he lived nor of mankind in general.

His personal life was simple, pure and domestic, and it is not out of place to add that he was much indebted to his wife, the mother of thirteen children, who, to all the qualities that could mould and adorn a home, has added a fine and discriminating wisdom.

In carrying out his plans, Mr. Spreckels moved along lines long thought out in advance of their execution and with unerring precision. Every difficulty and every obstruction, with very few exceptions, had been anticipated and met. When the time was ripe and the exactions of railroad corporations were felt by him, as they were also felt by the people of California, he did not hesitate to

organize a railroad corporation that brought freight rates to a reasonable figure. When he failed to obtain a satisfactory contract for the lighting of his home in San Francisco, he founded and established a lighting and power company which spread its service over the city and brought the rival corporation to terms. These two enterprises, involving the risk and the use of millions, were the results of an unbending determination on his part not to be victimized by monopoly, and while they ultimately turned out to be profitable, they identified him with the public good.

Absolutely fearless as he was, though deliberate and cautious, he had broken down all opposition to his vast projects and had never failed. In the midst of indefatigable labor, however, he had ever been among the most approachable of men. His benefactions, though unheralded, were innumerable, and no genuine cause ever appealed to him in vain. As a single example out of the hundreds, it may be noted that when, some years ago, the streets of San Francisco were filled with the unemployed and a hundred thousand dollars were needed for their relief, at a meeting called to raise the amount, Claus Spreckels was the first to contribute. "I can not make a speech," he said; "put me down for five thousand."

The Spreckels Family.

Besides his aged widow, there are left to mourn for him his four sons and one daughter. The sons are John D. Spreckels, well known here; C. A. Spreckels, known familiarly as "Gus"; Adolph B. Spreckels, treasurer of the Western Sugar Refining Company and vice president of several large corporations; and Rudolph Spreckels, who has very recently been in Honolulu and who must have arrived at his father's deathbed only a few hours before the end.

The Quarrel With Kalakaua.

The incidents in connection with the quarrel between Claus Spreckels and King Kalakaua, although frequently related by those who were present and knew the facts, have never been published. They are these, showing that events of historic importance can originate in things of no moment in themselves.

The King, Claus Spreckels and two admirals visiting in port, an American and a Britisher, were engaged in a game of euchre at the home of a mutual friend, in 1886. The relations between the two principal characters had been strained a trifle that afternoon, Spreckels having been negotiating with the King for the control of the city wharves, the city waterworks and the city lighting franchise, in exchange for which he had agreed to renew the loan he had made to the Kingdom of \$800,000 and increase it to a million. The King, for the first time in their relations, had demurred. They were good friends yet, however, and partners against the admirals in the card game.

In the course of the play, while Berger's Royal Hawaiians played outside, Spreckels had dealt to him a hand containing three kings, an ace and one smaller card. Turning it towards one of the admirals, he remarked: "If this were poker I have the winning hand here."

The admiral had three aces in his own hand and jestingly offered to bet, at the same time showing his hand.

"My four kings would still win over your aces," said Spreckels.

"Where is the fourth king?" asked Kalakaua.

"I am the fourth king," answered the Sugar King, while just then, as Kalakaua rose, angered at being slighted, the Berger musicians struck up "God Save the King" and Spreckels bowed to the band leader.

Kalakaua broke up the game and left the house, attended by Colonel George Macfarlane, his chamberlain. That night the two consulted. The next morning a loan bill was introduced into the Legislature, and, in spite of Spreckels' opposition, the measure carried and Colonel Macfarlane left on the next steamer for London to float the loan.

From that time on, for a couple of years, there was active hostility between Kalakaua and Claus Spreckels. The latter returned his decorations. Later, Colonel Macfarlane and Spreckels chancing to meet in New York, the latter stated that he was anxious to make up with the Hawaiian monarch. He was told that Kalakaua, too, was ready for a reconciliation, and thereupon Spreckels wired to San Francisco to have the Alameda held until he could reach the Coast to sail for Honolulu.

Other things interfered with this trip, however, and it was not until a year later that the rival kings shook hands and resumed their friendship.

RUMORED REVIVAL OF DEMOCRATIC WEEKLY

According to rumor, the County Beacon is to be reit after New Year's and made to beam in the community in the Democratic cause. The editor, according to the same rumor, is to be Charles L. Rhodes, who will be at the same time the secretary of Mayor Fern, combining in this way business with pleasure.

Ever since the Beacon's glimmering died out a year ago, the local Democracy has been without an English journal all of its own. This, when there will be public printing to do in the way of advertisements and news scoops to be landed from friends in high office, is an unthinkable position to be in, and the proper steps are to be taken to get out of it.

As a starter the doctrines of pure Democracy are to be handed out in the tabloid form of a weekly; later on there may be further developments.

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FREAR WRITES OF WORK UNDER WAY

Acting Governor Mott-Smith received a letter from Governor Frear by the Alameda touching on a number of matters of interest to this Territory. The Governor has secured a recognition of Hawaii's right to share in the appropriations for hydrographic and geographic surveys. In a conference between the Governor, Secretary Garfield and the heads of the hydrographic and geographic surveys it was decided that the chief of the hydrographic bureau should come to Hawaii as soon as possible and look into conditions. This is distant but not uncertain promise, of the undertaking of some reclamation projects here by the United States government.

The matter of leaving Hawaii out of the penny postage arrangement with Great Britain was to have been taken up by Governor Frear with the Postmaster-General the day after the letter was written. The Third Assistant Postmaster-General ruled against the Territory in the matter of sending the election ballots through the mails under a frank. This would have saved the Territory about \$300.

The Governor addressed the public lands committee of the Senate on December 11, and appeared on the same subject before the House committee on December 14.

Governor Frear expresses himself as very much pleased with the action of the Chamber of Commerce on the coastwise navigation law, though the situation is somewhat bewildering. Before news of the action of the Chamber of Commerce was received, Senator Piles, who introduced and is fathering the bill to suspend the coastwise laws between here and the Coast as far as relates to passengers, had referred the bill back to the committee, and it is now in danger of defeat.

The Governor thinks that by calling for competitive bids for the Federal building seven or eight months will be saved.

The Governor has had very little time to attend the meetings either of the Conservation Commission or of the Rivers and Harbors Conference. Director Newell of the Reclamation Service appeared in the Rivers and Harbors Congress as a representative from Hawaii, and read a paper on the subject which attracted much attention.

According to a cable, the Governor spent Christmas at Manchester, Vermont.

Mrs. Augustus Knudsen was the delegate from Hawaii to the Woman's Rivers and Harbors Congress, and she made an address on Hawaii.

The Governor writes: "We have not yet decided whether to introduce an immigration bill this session."

ANCIENT CAPITAL STRICTLY UP-TO-DATE

LAHAINA, Maui, December 26.—

There is nothing slow any more about this place, even the speed limit having been nudged up a notch or two within the past few hours. Yesterday Harry Heleikalani backed his hack into the barn, turned his horses out into the mane, and tooted loud and long upon a real automobile horn. He had heard of the fortunes to be made in burning up gasoline in Honolulu, and has gone into the auto-back business on his own account. All Lahaina turned to see him crank up and to admire the shiny paint on the mud guards. Then the chauffeur put on his insignia goggles, sharpened his pencil, and proceeded to book orders for the day. He filled his slate within four minutes and ran steadily—between involuntary stops—all the rest of the day and far into the night, when the acetylene glows were especially admired. Everyone in Lahaina who was anybody had at least fifteen minutes of glorious speeding, and walking as a means of locomotion dropped off several points.

Mrs. Burt, Miss Burt, Miss MacDonald, Miss Burnham, Miss Law, Miss Hise and Miss Green are visiting in Lahaina.

Miss Ho is visiting her parents in Honolulu.

Last Wednesday Miss MacDonald of the Normal School, who is visiting at Lahainaluna, gave a lawn tennis party and afternoon tea to Mr. and Mrs. Burnham, Miss Mosser of Paia, Miss Fols of Wailuku, Miss Law, Miss Clapham, Mr. Law, Mr. Kishart, Mr. Roberts, Mr. Wilson and Mr. Paschall. The games were exciting. Messrs. Wilson and Roberts doing some especially fast work over the nets.

Mrs. MacDonald, who has been visiting Mrs. Dodge of Wailuku for a few days, returned home on Thursday.

On Wednesday evening, under the direction of Mr. and Mrs. Kroll, a very fine Christmas concert was given at the parish hall. The children showed much skill in taking their parts. The play represented Santa Claus' first visit to Japan. It will be repeated on Wednesday next.

On Thursday evening the children of Waianae church were made glad by a well-aden Christmas tree in Hale-aloha hall.

Miss Foltz, who has been visiting Mrs. Simpson of the Baldwin Home, went to Honolulu on Thursday evening.

Teachers who went to Wailuku to attend the convention on the 18th say that if it had not been for the kindness of Judge McKay, the Rev. Mr. Dodge, Mr. Case, Miss Turner and others they would have been without lodgings owing to the hotels being filled with lawyers and witnesses in the case of Waldeyer vs. Wailuku Sugar Co.

Dr. Kincaid of Charlotte, North Carolina, has sent a Christmas greeting to his friends of Lahaina.

A Christmas service was held in each of the leading churches on Friday. The Rev. C. G. Burnham preached in the Waianae church and Mr. White interpreted the sermon into Hawaiian.

A party headed by Professors Roberts and Wilson went about a mile above the source of the Lahaina water system on Thursday. Since Mr. Pratt has had the ditch extended the water is good, and the whole system is in excellent condition, with an abundant supply.